United Nations A/57/PV.78

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session

Official Records

78th plenary meeting
Friday, 20 December 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Kavan ..... (Czech Republic)

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Reports of the Second Committee

The President: The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Second Committee on agenda items 84 to 96, 43 and 12. I request the Rapporteur of the Second Committee, Mr. Walid Al-Hadid, of Jordan, to introduce the reports of the Second Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Al-Hadid (Jordan), Rapporteur of the Second Committee (*spoke in Arabic*): I have the honour to introduce for the Assembly's consideration the following reports of the Second Committee on the agenda items allocated to it by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

Under item 12, entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 12 of document A/57/543, the adoption of one draft resolution and, in paragraph 13, the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under item 43, entitled "Follow up to the outcome of the special session on children", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/57/542, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 84 (a), entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 7 of document A/57/529/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution. In paragraph 8, it recommends the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 84 (b) of the agenda, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 8 of document A/57/529/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 84 (c) of the agenda, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 16 of document A/57/529/Add.3, the adoption of three draft resolutions and, in paragraph 17, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 84 (d) of the agenda, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt crisis and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/57/529/Add.4, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 84 (e) of the agenda, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: international financial system and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/57/529/Add.5, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 84 (f) of the agenda, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: preparations for the International Ministerial Meeting on Transit Transport Cooperation", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/57/529/Add.6, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 85, entitled "Sectoral policy questions", the Second Committee recommends, in

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

02-75769 (E)

paragraph 14 of document A/57/530, the adoption of two draft resolutions and, in paragraph 15, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 86 (a) of the agenda, entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/57/531/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 86 (b) of the agenda, entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: integration of the economies in transition into the world economy", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 5 of document A/57/531/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 86 (c) of the agenda, entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: culture and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/57/531/Add.3, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under sub-item 86 (d) of the agenda, entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/57/531/Add.4, the adoption of one draft resolution and, in paragraph 8, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under item 86 of the agenda, entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/57/531/Add.5, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 87 (a) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21", I would like to first correct an omission in paragraph 6 of the report (A/57/532/Add.1). The last sentence should read "Subsequently, Algeria, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Malta, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution." The Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 10 of document A/57/532/Add.1, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under sub-item 87 (b) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/57/532/Add.2, the adoption of two draft resolutions and, in paragraph 15, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 87 (c) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 16 of document A/57/532/Add.3, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under sub-item 87 (d) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/57/532/Add.4, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 87 (e) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/57/532/Add.5, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item 87 (f) of the agenda, entitled "Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/57/532/Add.6, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under item 88 of the agenda, entitled "Operational activities for development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 19 of document A/57/533, the adoption of two draft resolutions and, in paragraph 20, the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under item 89 of the agenda, entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for

the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/57/534, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under item 90 of the agenda, entitled "Training and research", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 15 of document A/57/535, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under item 91 of the agenda, entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 10 of document A/57/536, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under item 92 of the agenda, entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/57/537, the adoption of two draft resolutions and, in paragraph 15, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 93, entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development", the Second Committee recommends, in document A/57/538, paragraph 16, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under agenda item 94, entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the Second Committee recommends, in document A/57/539, paragraph 11, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 95, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", the Second Committee recommends, in document A/57/540, paragraph 9, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 96, entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries", the Second Committee recommends, in document A/57/541, paragraph 9, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Before concluding, I would like to take this opportunity sincerely to thank the Chairman of the Second Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo of Honduras, as well as the Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk of Morocco, Mr. Jan Kára of the Czech Republic and Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm of Belgium for their extraordinary cooperation and joint action and solidarity during the very successful session of the Second Committee.

I would also thank the Secretariat for its outstanding assistance to me and all the members of the Bureau and for the efficient discharge of their duties.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all representatives of Member States and pay tribute to their outstanding efforts during the meetings of the Second Committee, which this year had one of its most successful sessions.

The President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Second Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Second Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in the Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee".

May I further remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Second Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Second Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. This means that where a recorded vote was taken we will do the same. I should

also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Second Committee.

Agenda item 84

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529)

The President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee contained in document A/57/529?

It was so decided (decision 57/540).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 84.

(a) International trade and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.1)

The President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of the same report. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/235).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Reports of the Trade and Development Board". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/541).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

(b) Commodities

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.2)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of its report. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/236).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

(c) Science and technology for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.3)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 16 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 17 of the same report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Global biotechnology forum: Chile 2003". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/237).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "World Summit on the Information Society". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/238).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/239).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Documents relating to science and technology for development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/542).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

(d) External debt crisis and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.4)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/240).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

(e) International financial system and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.5)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/241).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 84?

It was so decided.

(f) Preparations for the International Ministerial Meeting on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/529/Add.6)

The President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the International Ministerial Conference on Transit Transport Cooperation". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/242).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 84.

Agenda item 85

Sectoral policy questions

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/530)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 15 of the same report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Industrial development cooperation". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/243).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/244).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Report on business and development".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/543).

The President: May I take it that the Assembly wishes to conclude its consideration of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 86

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/531 and A/57/531/Add.5)

The President: We turn first to the report of the Second Committee contained in document A/57/531.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee contained in document A/57/531?

It was so decided (decision 57/544).

The President: The Assembly will now turn to the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report contained in document A/57/531/Add.5.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "International Year of Mountains, 2002". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/245).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 86.

(a) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/531/Add.1)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/246).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 86?

It was so decided.

(b) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/531/Add.2)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 5 of its report. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/247).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 86?

It was so decided.

(c) Culture and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/531/Add.3)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report. The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Year of Kyrgyz Statehood". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/248).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Culture and development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/249).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 86?

It was so decided.

(d) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/531/Add.4)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 8 of the same report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/250).

The President: The draft decision is entitled "Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the involvement of civil society organizations other than non-governmental organizations and the private sector in technical cooperation activities: experiences and prospects of the United Nations system". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/545).

The President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 86.

Agenda item 87

Environment and sustainable development

Reports of the Second Committee (A/57/532 and A/57/532/Add.7)

The President: We turn first to document A/57/532. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee contained in A/57/532?

It was so decided (decision 57/546).

The President: The Assembly will now turn to the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10 of its report contained in document A/57/532/Add.7.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/251).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "Activities undertaken in preparation for the international Year of Freshwater, 2003". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/252).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of is consideration of agenda item 87.

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.1)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "World Summit on Sustainable Development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/253).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/254).

The President: May I take that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(b) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.2)

The President: The General Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report, and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 15 of the same report.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Secretariat.

Mr. Chen (Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management): In operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution II, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources, within existing resources, for the effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat.

The activities of the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction are, by established practice, funded exclusively through extra-budgetary resources. Consequently, the General Assembly is advised that the requirements in respect of the activities of the inter-agency secretariat could not be absorbed within existing resources of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 and that adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to any additional requirements under the regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions and on the draft decision.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/255).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/256).

The President: The Second Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Natural disasters and vulnerability". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/547).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(c) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.3)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 16 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/257).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "World Climate Change Conference". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/258).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(d) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.4)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/259).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(e) Convention on Biological Diversity

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.5)

The President: I call on the representative of Switzerland.

Mr. Toscano (Switzerland): I would like to request that a correction be made to paragraph 8 of the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 7 of document A/57/532/Add.5 so as to bring it into line with the draft resolution that was adopted within the framework of the Second Committee.

After the words "of genetic resources", there should be a full stop instead of a comma. The paragraph would then continue unaltered, with the word "And" at the beginning of the sentence being capitalized.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report, as orally corrected.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 57/260).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(f) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.6)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/261).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/262).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 87.

Agenda item 88

Operational activities for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/533)

Mr. Carpio Govea (Venezuela) (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, to draw the attention of the Assembly to draft resolution II, entitled "Human Development Report", contained in section 3 of document A/57/533.

Two significant corrections need to be made to the English version of paragraphs 5 and 6 of the draft resolution.

(*spoke in English*)

Paragraph 5 should read "invites the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA". And then, on the second line, it should read "a separate agenda item on the Human Development Report".

Paragraph 6 should be replaced with the following paragraph:

> "Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the present resolution is reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session within the context of the relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on its substantive session in 2003".

The President: Draft resolution I is entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries". The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

> *Draft resolution I was adopted* (resolution 56/264).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "*Human Development Report*". The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution II, as orally corrected. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

> *Draft resolution II, as orally corrected, was adopted* (resolution 57/265).

The President: We turn now to the two draft decisions. Draft decision I is entitled "Pledging mechanisms and resource mobilization for operational activities for development of the United Nations system". The Second Committee adopted draft decision I. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

> *Draft decision I was adopted* (decision 57/548).

The President: Draft decision II is entitled "Documents relating to operational activities for development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision II recommended by the Second Committee?

> *Draft decision II was adopted* (decision 57/549).

The President: May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to conclude its consideration of agenda item 88?

> *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 89

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/534)

The President: The Assembly will take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Establishment of the World Solidarity Fund". The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

> *Draft resolution I was adopted* (resolution 57/265).

The President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)". The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

> *Draft resolution II was adopted* (resolution 57/266).

The President: I now give the floor to delegations wishing to speak in explanation of position.

Mr. Mejdoub (Tunisia) (*spoke in Arabic*): The Tunisian delegation is very pleased that the General Assembly has adopted the resolution calling for the creation of a World Solidarity Fund. The Assembly's

approval confirms the decision made by Heads of State and Government in Johannesburg at the end of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to put this new instrument into action in the fight against poverty. The objective for establishing this Fund is to complement current operations rather than take their place. It will also create synergies through a variety of initiatives and existing programmes and funds.

The Fund's activities should result, among other things, in improved living conditions, in particular in the areas of potable water, education, health services, housing, electricity, the integration of rural areas and the promotion of such income-generating activities as micro-financing and micro-enterprises. Last but not least, those activities will help to reduce gender inequality and promote opportunities for the economic integration of women.

We would like to convey our thanks to all delegations that have supported this initiative since it was launched, in August 1999, by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia. We would like, in particular, to express our gratitude to the Group of 77 and China, as well as to the delegations of the European Union, the United States of America, Japan, Canada and Australia. I would also like to convey my thanks to all other delegations that demonstrated flexibility during the negotiations regarding the Fund. Our thanks also go to Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations officials for their cooperation in the drafting of concrete proposals within the Fund's institutional and organizational framework.

(*spoke in English*)

Allow me to make my last comment in English in order to appeal to the international community, Governments, the private sector, foundations, international organizations and civil society in general. I call on them to contribute generously to the World Solidarity Fund in order to allow it to become operational in the shortest time possible and to make it possible for it to translate its universal values into reality.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 89?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 90

Training and research

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/535)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 15 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "United Nations University". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/267).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/268).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 90?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 91

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/536)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape

Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Madagascar, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu.

The draft resolution was adopted by 155 votes to 4, with 4 abstentions (resolution 57/269).

[Subsequently, the delegations of the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour.]

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 91?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 92

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/537)

The President: The General Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 14 of its report and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 15 of the same report.

I call on the representative of the Secretariat.

Mr. Chen (Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management): Under the terms of paragraphs 1, 8 and 9 of draft resolution I, entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields", the General Assembly would, inter alia, decide to establish an open-ended ad hoc working group of the General Assembly under the chairmanship of the President of the General Assembly. The Assembly would also decide that the working group will commence its substantive work during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, no later than January 2003, and will submit its report before 27 June 2003, for consideration by the General Assembly and action before the close of the fifty-seventh session. The Assembly would further decide that the working group will consider its work programme at its first meeting, including the issue of periodicity and duration of its meetings within the time boundaries established in paragraph 8.

It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the first meeting of the working group will be held at a date when conference services are available, and that the working group will not meet at the same time as the plenary of the General Assembly or another working group of the Assembly. The periodicity and duration of the meetings of the working group in the future will be determined at its first meeting and, if necessary, at subsequent meetings.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions and on the draft decision.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/270).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "World Food Summit: five years later". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/271).

The President: The Second Committee further recommends for adoption a draft decision entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/550).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 92.

Agenda item 93

High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/538)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/661)

The President: The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution II is contained in document A/57/661. The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 16 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/272).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/273).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 93?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 94

Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/539)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/274).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 94?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 95

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/540)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/275).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 96

Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/541)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/276).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 43

Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/542)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft decision. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/551).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 43?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 12

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Second Committee (A/57/543)

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 12 of its report, and on the two draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 13 of the same report.

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Public administration and development". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/277).

The President: Draft decision I is entitled "Documents relating to the report of the Economic and Social Council".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision I recommended by the Second Committee?

Draft decision I was adopted (decision 57/552).

The President: The Second Committee adopted draft decision II entitled "Biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2003-2004". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision II was adopted (decision 57/553).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 12.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Second Committee before it.

Agenda items 110, 111, 111 together with 112 and 115, 111 and 118, 113, 115, 116, 117, 119 to 122, 124, 125, 126, 134, 147, and 112

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The President: I now request the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Haile Selassie Ge'achew of Ethiopia, to introduce the reports of the Fifth Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Getachew (Ethiopia), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour today to present to the General Assembly the reports of the Fifth Committee containing recommendations on issues that required action during the main part of the fifty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly.

The Fifth Committee met from 25 September to 16 December 2002, and held 38 plenary meetings and 76 informal consultations. The Fifth Committee had held extensive consultations on the issues before it and adopted all its recommendations without a vote. I, therefore, have the honour to present the following brief report on the work of the Fifth Committee.

Under item 110 of the agenda, entitled "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors", the report of the Committee is contained in document A/57/639. In paragraph 7 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution that was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 111, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", and agenda item 118, entitled "Human resources management", the Committee, in its report contained in document A/57/603, recommends, in paragraph 6, one draft resolution entitled "Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities", which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Continuing with agenda item 111, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", the Committee, in paragraphs 14 and 15 of its report contained in document A/57/648, recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of two draft resolutions and three draft decisions — namely, draft resolution I, on procurement reform; draft resolution II, on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005; draft decision I, on common services; draft decision II, on the biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 2003-2004; and draft decision III, on action taken on certain items, which were adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 112, the report of the Fifth Committee, entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003", is contained in document A/57/649. In paragraph 79 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of draft resolution I, on questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003; draft resolution II A, on advised budget appropriations for the biennium 2002-2003; draft resolution II B, on revised estimates for the biennium 2002-2003; and draft resolution II C, on financing of the appropriations for 2003. In paragraph 80 of the same report, the Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft decisions I to XXV, which were adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 113, entitled "Programme planning", the Committee recommends to the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its report, contained in document A/57/650, the adoption of a draft resolution on programme planning, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 115, entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency", the Committee considered the statistical report of the Chief Executives Board on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system. In paragraph 6 of its report, contained in document A/57/602, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 111, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", agenda item 112, entitled "Programme budget for the biennium

2002-2003" and agenda item 115, entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency", the Committee considered the question of the activities of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly. In paragraph 4 of its report, contained in document A/57/623, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of one draft decision, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Regarding agenda item 116, entitled "Pattern of conferences", the Committee met extensively but was unable to reach consensus on a comprehensive draft resolution. Accordingly, the Committee decided to recommend, in paragraph 7 of its report, contained in document A/57/651, a draft resolution, by which the Assembly would approve the devised calendar of conferences for 2003 and would decide to continue consideration of those agenda items at the first meeting of the resumed fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Regarding agenda item 117, entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", the report of the Committee is contained in document A/57/429/Add.1. In paragraph 6 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 119, the report of the Committee, entitled "Joint Inspection Unit", is contained is document A/57/640. In paragraph 6, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Regarding agenda item 120, entitled "United Nations common system", the Committee recommends to the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its report, contained in document A/57/652, the adoption of one draft resolution, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Under agenda item 121, entitled "United Nations Pension System", the Committee recommends to the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its report contained in document A/57/653, the adoption of a draft resolution, which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Regarding agenda item 124, entitled "Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991", and agenda item 125, entitled "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994", the reports of the Committee are contained in documents A/57/654 and A/57/655, respectively. In paragraph 6 of each report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of one draft resolution. Both were adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Mr. Hidayat (Indonesia), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The report of the Committee on agenda item 126, entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations", is contained in document A/57/656. In paragraph 6 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The report of the Committee on item 134, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" is contained in document A/57/657. In paragraph 6 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

The report of the Committee on agenda item 147, "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" is contained in document A/57/643. In paragraph 6 of its report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

With regard to agenda item 12, "Report of the Economic and Social Council", in paragraph 4 of its report (A/57/624) the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision which was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

Before concluding, I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to the Group of African States for demonstrating their confidence in me by asking me to serve as the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly. I would also like to convey my deepest appreciation to the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Murari Raj Sharma, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Nepal, for his outstanding leadership and to all other members of the Bureau for their professionalism.

I would be remiss if I failed to express my appreciation to all Member States for their high degree of cooperation, to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Committee for their dedication and hard work and to the other members of the Secretariat staff for their invaluable assistance, which enabled the Committee to complete its heavy workload at an earlier date than in previous years.

The Acting President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements, if any, will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I further remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee, unless notified otherwise in advance. I therefore hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Fifth Committee.

Agenda item 110 (*continued*)

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/639)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/278).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 110.

Agenda item 111

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/648)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 14 of its report and on the three draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 15 of the same report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Procurement reform". The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/279).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004-2005". The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/280).

The Acting President: We turn now to draft decision I, entitled "Common services". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted (decision 57/554).

The Acting President: Draft decision II is entitled "Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 2003-2004". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft decision II was adopted (decision 57/555).

The Acting President: Draft decision III is entitled "Action taken on certain items". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision III was adopted (decision 57/556).

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 111.

Agenda items 111 (*continued*), 112 and 115

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/623)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 4 of its report. The draft decision is entitled "Activities of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly". May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the draft decision?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/557).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda items 111, 112 and 115.

Agenda items 111 (*continued*) and 118

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Human resources management

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/603)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The draft resolution is entitled "Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/281).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda items 111 and 118.

Agenda item 113

Programme planning

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/650)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/282).

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 113.

Agenda item 115 (*continued*)

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/602)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The draft decision is entitled "Statistical report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/558).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 115.

Agenda item 116

Pattern of conferences

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/651)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/283).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 116.

Agenda item 117 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/429/Add.1)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/4 B).

The Acting President: I call on the representative of Denmark, who wishes to speak in explanation of position on the resolution just adopted.

Mr. Christiansen (Denmark): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union (EU). The acceding States Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with the European Union Bulgaria and Romania, and the associated country Turkey, as well as the European Free Trade Association countries of the European Economic Area Iceland and Liechtenstein, align themselves with this statement.

With the resolution just adopted, the General Assembly has decided to implement an ad hoc adjustment of the rates of assessment in 2003 of Argentina's contribution to the United Nations regular budget. The General Assembly also decided to implement an ad hoc correction of the rates of assessment in 2003 of Afghanistan's contribution to the United Nations regular budget. That decision was possible only because of the new contributions to the Organization by two new Member States, which the General Assembly decided to accept in the same resolution.

Against this background, the European Union welcomes in particular the decision to request the Committee on Contributions to develop criteria for consideration and approval by the General Assembly regarding ad hoc adjustments of the rates of assessment, in keeping with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Such criteria must be in place before submission by the Committee of possible recommendations regarding appeals by Member States of such adjustments for the consideration of the General Assembly.

When developing the said criteria, the Committee on Contributions should take into full account that the decision contained in paragraph 3 is not a precedent and that future applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, on their own merits and on the understanding that an application cannot have adverse effects on the scale of assessments.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 117.

Agenda item 119

Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/640)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/284).

The Acting President: We have thus concluded this stage of our consideration of agenda item 119.

Agenda item 120

United Nations common system

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/652)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/285).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

Agenda item 121

United Nations pension system

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/653)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/286).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 121.

Agenda item 122

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/604)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/287).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 122.

Agenda item 124

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/654)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/288).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 124.

Agenda item 125

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/655)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/289).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 125.

Agenda item 126

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/656)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/290).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 126.

Agenda item 134

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/657)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/291).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 134.

Agenda item 147

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/643)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The draft decision is entitled "Proposed donation of assets to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina".

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I consider that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/559).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 147.

Agenda item 112 (*continued*)

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/649)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 79 of its report, which, for the time being, is contained in

section IV of document A/C.5/57/L.49, and on the 25 draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 80 of the same document.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2002-3003".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/292).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution II. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/293).

The Acting President: Draft decision I is entitled "Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted (decision 57/560).

The Acting President: Draft decision II is entitled "Videoconferencing at the United Nations".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft decision II was adopted (decision 57/561).

The Acting President: Draft decision III is entitled "Decentralized budgetary and financial arrangements for central services".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision III was adopted (decision 57/562).

The Acting President: Draft decision IV is entitled "Delivery of advisory services".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision IV was adopted (decision 57/563).

The Acting President: Draft decision V is entitled "Trends in extrabudgetary resources at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the impact on its capacity to carry out the programme of work". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision V was adopted (decision 57/564).

The Acting President: Draft decision VI is entitled "Cooperation between headquarters departments and regional commissions". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision VI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision VI was adopted (decision 57/565).

The Acting President: Draft decision VII is entitled "United Nations Fund for International Partnerships". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision VII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision VII was adopted (decision 57/566).

The Acting President: Draft decision VIII is entitled "Inter-organizational security measures: framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision VIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision VIII was adopted (decision 57/567).

The Acting President: Draft decision IX is entitled "Conversion into established posts of some temporary assistance posts financed under section 2 of the programme budget". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision IX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision IX was adopted (decision 57/568).

The Acting President: Draft decision X is entitled "Cases in which incumbents of the posts are being paid at a level other than the one provided for the post". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision X

without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision X was adopted (decision 57/569).

The Acting President: Draft decision XI is entitled "Presentation of estimates of staff assessment". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XI was adopted (decision 57/570).

The Acting President: Draft decision XII is entitled "Development Account". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XII was adopted (decision 57/571).

The Acting President: Draft decision XIII is entitled "Experience in applying the revised administrative arrangements approved by the General Assembly for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO in its decision 53/411 B". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XIII was adopted (decision 57/572).

The Acting President: Draft decision XIV is entitled "Proposed revisions to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XIV. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XIV was adopted (decision 57/573).

The Acting President: Draft decision XV is entitled "Comprehensive review of the post structure of the United Nations Secretariat". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XV was adopted (decision 57/574).

The Acting President: Draft decision XVI is entitled "Results-based budgeting". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XVI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XVI was adopted (decision 57/575).

The Acting President: Draft decision XVII is entitled "Additional expenditures deriving from inflation and currency fluctuations". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XVII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XVII was adopted (decision 57/576).

The Acting President: Draft decision XVIII is entitled "Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XVIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XVIII was adopted (decision 57/577).

The Acting President: Draft decision XIX is entitled "Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XIX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XIX was adopted (decision 57/578).

The Acting President: Draft decision XX is entitled "Strengthening the Department of Public Information, within the existing capacity, in order to support and enhance the United Nations web site in all official languages of the Organization". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XX was adopted (decision 57/579).

The Acting President: Draft decision XXI is entitled "Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XXI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XXI was adopted (decision 57/580).

The Acting President: Draft decision XXII is entitled "Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XXII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XXII was adopted (decision 57/581).

The Acting President: Draft decision XXIII is entitled "Khmer Rouge trials". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XXIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XXIII was adopted (decision 57/582).

The Acting President: Draft decision XXIV is entitled "Ensuring effective secretariat support for the sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XXIV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XXIV was adopted (decision 57/583).

The Acting President: Draft decision XXV is entitled "Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision XXV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision XXV was adopted (decision 57/584).

The Acting President: I now give the floor to the representative of Venezuela, who wishes to speak on a point of order.

Mr. Pulido León (Venezuela) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation would like to draw the attention of the Assembly to an omission in paragraph 76 of document A/C.5/57/L.49. It is true that my delegation, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.38. But, also in a formal meeting, we presented amendments to the draft resolution, which gave rise to document A/C.5/57/L.38/Rev.1. This is not reflected in the draft report of the Fifth Committee.

Furthermore, paragraph 78 reports that when draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.50 was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee as coordinator, and was then adopted, my delegation withdrew draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.38. That is correct. But reference should also be made to the fact that we withdrew the revised draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/57/L.38/Rev.1. Therefore, I wish to request that the relevant corrections be made to document A/C.5/57/L.49 when it appears as document A/57/649.

The Acting President: The corrections will be duly made.

The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 112.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all reports of the Fifth Committee before it.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.